

U.S. Embassy Manama

Demonstration Notice 24 UPDATED – April 4, 2014

IED usage throughout the country continues to take place primarily in the restricted areas and against police forces. Additional IED attacks remain likely. The IEDs have been secreted into areas along certain neighborhood streets and common streets throughout the restricted areas. Avoid areas where the MOI's security forces are gathered due to the threat of likely pending anti-Government of Bahrain (GOB) activities. Do not attempt to drive through or otherwise remove debris strewn across roadways. Use caution and alter your daily routes of travel to avoid known problem areas.

In an effort to draw attention away from the F1 race events over this weekend (April 4-6), certain opposition groups will likely attempt to carry out various disruptive activities in multiple locations throughout the island. As a reminder, we urge you to be aware of your surroundings. Look for any type of suspicious activity, such as abandoned/unattended vehicles left in unusual locations, near Government of Bahrain installations, etc.; individuals walking/running away from unattended vehicles; suspicious packages/items seemingly abandoned in open or populated locations; and suspicious packages on or near ATM machines. All of the aforementioned have been previous tactics and targets of these groups. In addition, be mindful of recommended areas of travel especially should you decide to attend F1 events. If you detect any suspicious items and/or activity, depart the area immediately and contact the police at 999.

Friday, April 4 2014, from 3:00pm through 12:00am, an opposition group has called for a march along the Budaiya Highway Corridor west of the Burgerland RA. Expect increased police activity and heavy traffic. Avoid this area (Orange oval).

April 4-6, 2014, during this time period you should increase your situational awareness while visiting places where large crowds are gathered such as malls and sporting events. When traveling between home and events plan for additional travel time as police checkpoints throughout the country will likely be increased during this time period. Place additional supplies in vehicles for unexpected delays and stay tuned to local media.

There have been no direct attacks on U.S. citizens to date. We recommend that you continually exercise the appropriate level of security awareness in regards to anti-U.S. activity or events. Spontaneous and, at times, violent anti-government of Bahrain protests continue to occur, particularly at night and on weekends. These protests have included blockades of major highways with burning debris and the establishment of unofficial checkpoints. Protestors have thrown rocks and Molotov cocktails and used homemade weapons to include improvised explosive devices and shotgun like projectile launchers. To counter these acts the Ministry of Interior will utilize crowd control measures, such as tear gas, stun grenades, and birdshot. Violent clashes between security forces and protestors can make travel in and around Bahrain dangerous without advance warning. The Ministry of Interior maintains official checkpoints in certain areas. We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at travel.state.gov where the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Country Specific Information](#), [Travel Warnings](#), and [Travel Alerts](#) can be found. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. Download our free Smart Traveler app, available through [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#), to have travel information at your fingertips. In addition to information on the internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, from other countries, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, Eastern Time (except U.S. federal holidays). The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The Embassy's [website](#), <http://bahrain.usembassy.gov>, includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and Demonstration Notices. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#). The Consular Section can be reached at ManamaConsular@state.gov.

The U.S. Embassy is located at:

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